

#### ***IV. HIV Prevention Research and Evaluation Section***

This is a new section that was established with the reorganization of April 1999. This section is responsible for comprehensive behavioral HIV prevention research and evaluation, management information systems and service reporting. These activities will respond to the CDC mandate as embodied in its new HIV Prevention Evaluation Guidelines. The establishment of this section creates the infrastructure to provide formative, process, outcome and impact program evaluation capacity for HIV prevention planning, education and prevention, counseling and testing and training activities. It also consolidates Branch prevention research functions to strengthen their role and increase capacity. This section will be a visible point of contact, cooperation and coordination for HIV prevention research and evaluation among local providers, public health professionals and the universities. Enhanced prevention and program evaluation research enables OA to focus its efforts on the most effective strategies for the most impacted groups.